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FAX 29

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FEB 1952

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

INFORMATION REPORT

REFERENCE CO

REPORT

CD NO.

DO NOT CIRCULATE

COUNTRY USSR (Black Sea)

DATE DISTR. 24 October 1952

SUBJECT 1. Port of Odessa
2. Air and Sea Exercises near Odessa

NO. OF PAGES 4

DATE OF INFO.

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW) 3 (Attachment 2 only to @)

PLACE ACQUIRED

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. the Odessa roads, harbor. Soviet Coast Patrol boats with lights out

2. A flashing red light was situated on the outer end of the curved breakwater at A on Attachment 1. This light is in alignment with another red light ashore at K on Attachment 1, and this alignment marks a shoal (240° T, distance one and one-half miles from A). The shoal is also marked by two buoys, one red and the other green, which were anchored close to it. Two small craft near the buoys, which were probably doing cable maintenance work,

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3.

4. at D a two-funnel ship of about 8,000 to 10,000 tons. It was painted black all over and all the portholes were lighted. It appeared to be a Soviet transport loaded with troops.

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5. a 20-knot speedboat made frequent trips between the troop transport and the inner harbor. The transport left during the night or at dawn.

6.

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[redacted] the port was poorly lighted and in some spots it was almost dark. Only the points of passage, police posts, etc, were lighted ashore.

7. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

a. At E the former Col[illegible] was observed moored stern to the wharf. It was gray but two white tripes were being painted on it.

b. The breakwater at H accomodated no vessels, nor was any guard or other personnel seen.

c. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

d. A small local passenger ship at the head of the pier. It departed [redacted] 50X1-HUM

e. The Tovarishch berthed at M. It is a three-masted schoolship of the Soviet Navy. In the morning, sailors from this unit went ashore for a bath in two 50-man non-regimented parties. These parties had no officer-in-charge, and presumably were unaccompanied by even a petty officer.

f. Four Soviet ships of 2,000 to 3,000 tons were moored at N and O. They were moored in twos and apparently were out of commission, with no personnel aboard.

g. At P a medium-sized dredge was at work excavating to eight-to ten-meter depths.

h. In the Q area there were six or eight naval craft, either picket-boats or mine sweepers.

i. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

j. At S a Soviet ship of 6,000 to 7,000 tons, not in service.

k. Moored at T in basin 5 there was a 12,000-ton passenger ship which was brightly lit [redacted] 50X1-HUM

l. Anchored at U there was a destroyer which arrived on the morning [redacted] and departed the same evening. It was an old two-stacker, armed with two guns forward and two guns aft and torpedo tubes amidships. [redacted] no radar or registry numbers were visible. The unit was painted a dark gray, with one or two white bands on the funnels. 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM

8. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] on the pier lying between the basins Nos. 3 and 5 a group of two-story structures at V and two Z-cranes of old type, railmounted, idle, and apparently inoperative.

9. At the corner B of basin No. 3 there was an unidentified work in progress. [redacted] along the wharf apron a large, flexible, metal pipe in sections of eight meters, 20 to 25 cm in diameter and covered with canvas. In the water, about a meter from the quay, there was a series of very heavy posts placed about two and one-half meters apart. The piling encloses an area of about 15 by 15 meters. 50X1-HUM

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10. On the pier between basins 2 and 3 there were numerous tracks but no cranes. The large grain elevator and the Inflot building were on this pier at the points indicated on Attachment 1. A stairway constructed of masonry is on the outer end of the pier.

11. The entire port area is traversed by numerous railroad tracks. There was a good stock of freight cars which were mostly old and in disrepair. These cars were usually smaller than [redacted] but 50X1-HUM there were none of unusual length. About one hundred cars were on the tracks behind the docking basins 5 and 6. Some were loaded with steel bars, T-beams, and numerous cases of varying size. A half dozen of the cases were about 15 meters long and two meters high, and each was shipped on two cars because of its length. [redacted] judging from the pressure on the leaf springs of the cars, they were very heavy. It is possible that they contained submarine parts, manufactured inland. 50X1-HUM

12. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

13. [redacted] heard continuous cannonading at intervals of about one minute, by guns of very heavy caliber situated at considerable distance, in the direction of Cape Fontana. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

14. [redacted]

15. No radar installations or stations [redacted]

16. [redacted] the Sevastopol shipyards are working steadily for the construction of naval units, and [redacted] these yards are considered the best in the world. The type of vessel under construction is unknown. 50X1-HUM

17. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

18. [redacted]

19. [redacted] the checkpoint in the wall surrounding the port area is marked approximately on Attachment 1. A good part of this wall is formed by the overhang of the cliff overlooking the port, and on which the city stands. At the foot of the overhang there were barracks and warehouses. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

20. A long stairway leads to the boulevard, which flanks the port area at a height of 60 meters. [redacted] this boulevard was crowded, but [redacted] very few military, only some groups of sailors. The people appeared ordinary and generally were dressed in all types of clothes of rather poor quality. Most of the women wore small hats and almost all wore stockings. Generally healthy persons were observed but occasionally there was an undernourished individual. The young people appeared carefree, whereas the older folk showed care in their faces. [redacted] only one bar with three tables [redacted] 50X1-HUM

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Billboards revealed only one theater, an opera house which advertised Turandot and La Traviata.

21. the city proper, where the streets were well-kept and tree-lined but poorly lighted. Houses in general were old, constructed of masonry and three or four stories high. There were very few shops, one of which was a general store. The prices marked on the goods were very high. 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM

22. the harbor was completely befogged. The foghorn at A was put into operation the fog was generated by a picketboat equipped with a fog layer. The picketboat followed the route indicated on Attachment 1 at a speed of about ten knots. The fog was white, of undefinable odor (not odorless), made the eyes smart slightly, and formed a heavy persistent, thick layer about ten meters high which effectively darkened the harbor. 50X1-HUM

23. off Cape Fontana, an empty Soviet oil tanker of some 10,000 tons. Judging from its course, its destination was probably Batumi. This tanker had a speed of 10 knots and it was not fitted with emplacements for guns or machine guns.

24. about 20 miles south of Cape Fontana and fifteen miles off land, three torpedo boats (PT) were seen; they were of the class seen lying at anchor in the harbor at Odessa. These units were two or three miles closer to land, in line astern formation, about 700 to 800 meters apart and probably bound for Odessa. No signals were visibly exchanged among these units, and no maneuvering of any kind was done.

25. Another Soviet oil tanker of 15,000 tons was steaming close to land and was presumably bound for Constanta. Her speed was twelve knots.

26. the Soviet oil tanker Pamir off Chanak on the Dardanelles. was empty and bound for the Black Sea at fifteen knots.

27.

Attachments: Three

1. Port of Odessa

3. Sketch of the area of air and sea exercises near Odessa

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Attachment 1

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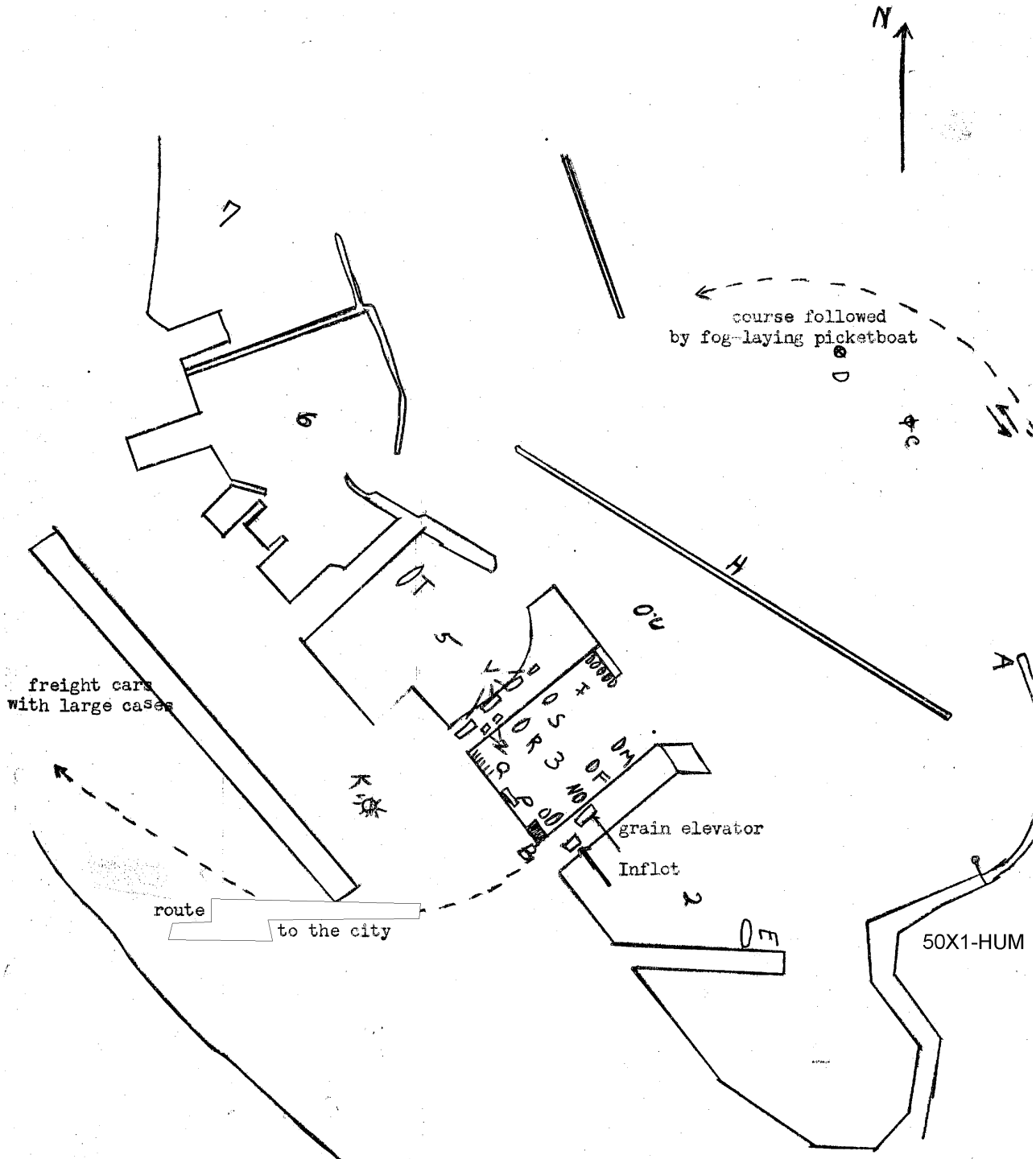
Port Of Odessa



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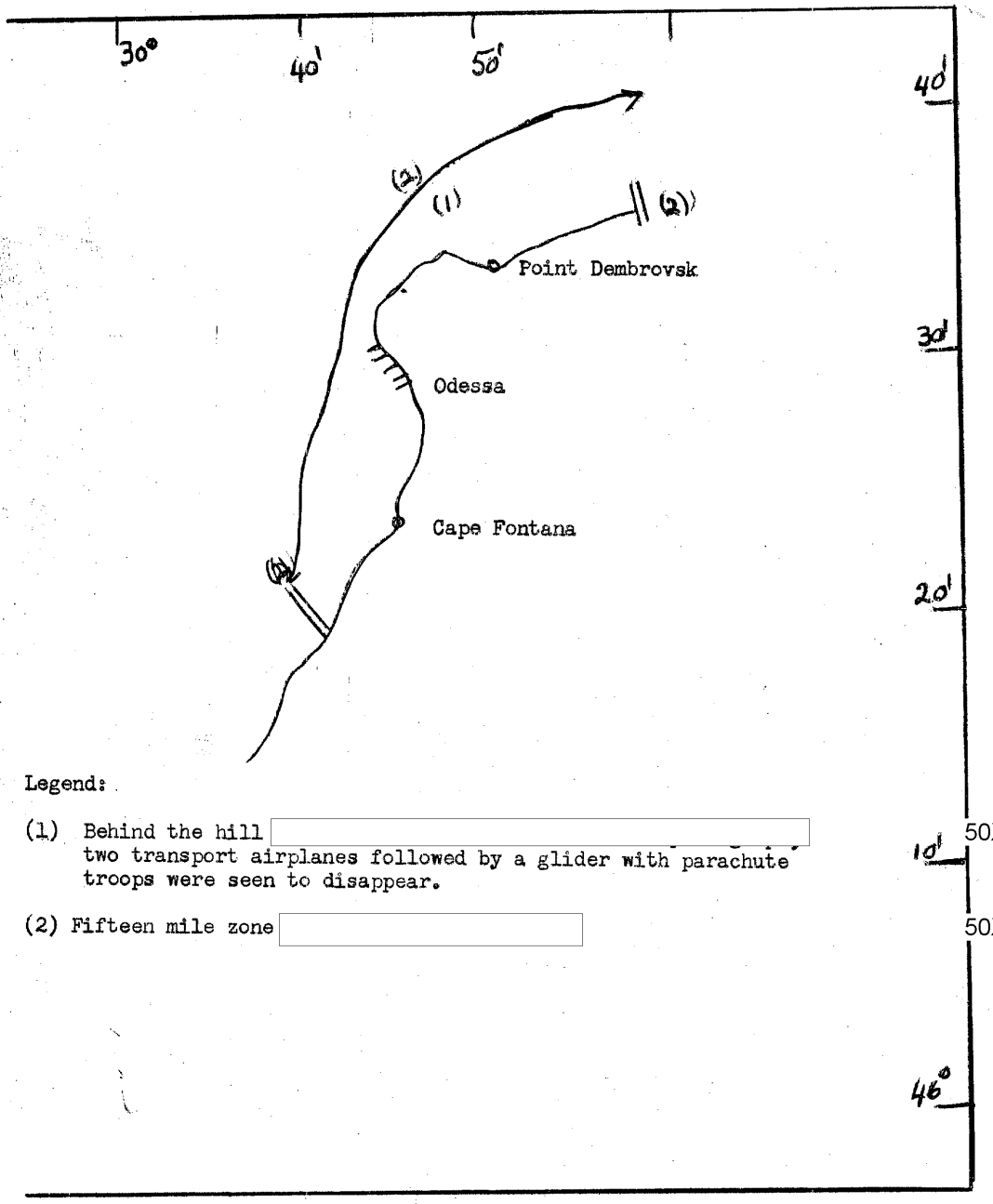
Attachment 3

Area of Air and Naval Exercises near Odessa



Legend:

(1) Behind the hill [redacted] two transport airplanes followed by a glider with parachute troops were seen to disappear.

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(2) Fifteen mile zone [redacted]

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